

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (canceled).
2. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the rubber composition has ~~a viscosity of not more than 2 kPa·s as measured at a shearing rate of 750 s<sup>-1</sup> and a temperature of 100°C according to ASTM D5099-93, and a tensile stress at 100% elongation of not less than 5 MPa and an elongation at break of not less than 200% as rubber properties after the vulcanization.~~
3. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the resin is a thermosetting resin.
4. (original) A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 3, wherein the resin is at least one kind of bismaleimide-based resin.

5. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the compound is at least one bismaleimide.

6. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.5-2.0 parts by mass of N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2-benzothiazolyl sulfenamide based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

7. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.02-0.4 part by mass of a cobalt compound as a total content of a cobalt element based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

8. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 14, wherein the rubber composition contains 4.0-8.0 parts by mass of sulfur as a vulcanizing agent based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

9. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the resin is a thermosetting resin.

10. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the compound is at least one bismaleimide.

11. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.5-2.0 parts by mass of N,N'-dicyclohexyl-2-benzothiazolyl sulfenamide based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

12. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the rubber composition further contains 0.02-0.4 part by mass of a cobalt compound as a total content of a cobalt element based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

13. (previously presented): A method of producing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein the rubber composition contains 4.0-8.0 parts by mass of sulfur as a vulcanizing agent based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component.

14. (currently amended): A method of producing a pneumatic tire comprising:  
forming a belt layer ~~by~~ on a rotating support by one of the following methods:

① successively laminating a coating rubber and ~~a single steel cord or a plurality of~~  
steel cords, or

② affixing a small-width band-shaped body of a single steel cord or a plurality of  
steel cords previously covered with a coating rubber, or

③ covering a single steel cord or a plurality of steel cords with a coating rubber  
~~while shaping and affixing it~~ to form a small-width band-shaped body during the tire shaping and  
affixing it,

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~~spirally winding the belt layer on a rotating support,~~

wherein a rubber composition constituting the coating rubber is formed by compounding a rubber component with a compound having a melting point of 120-220°C and/or a resin having a softening point prior to curing of 90-150°C, and a total compounding amount of the compound and the resin is 0.5-25 parts by mass based on 100 parts by mass of the rubber component, and the rubber composition has a viscosity of not more than 2 kPa·s as measured at a shearing rate of 750 s<sup>-1</sup> and a temperature of 100°C according to ASTM D5099-93.